

Appl. No. TBD  
Preliminary Amdt. Dated May 2, 2006  
Reply to Office action of N/A

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : TBD  
Applicant : Hideko Akashi et al.  
Filed : Herewith  
Title : THAWING METHOD

Int'l. Application No. : PCT/US2004/016845  
Int'l. Filing Date : November 12, 2004

Conf. No. : TBD  
TC/A.U. : TBD  
Examiner : TBD

Customer No. : 52054  
Docket No. : 40369

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A"**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof, in the following manner.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.

**Express Mail Label No. EV740231094US**